

Why cannot every member of the A. O. U. post himself on the laws as they affect the birds of his state and make it his business to converse with as many gunners as possible and let them know in the course of conversation that he is informed on the law and is on the lookout for violators? In the case of boys or ignorant gunners actually engaged in illegal shooting or preparing to do so, the law and the penalties could be forcibly explained. Educational work of this sort carried on with a little tact will do a world of good and exemplify once more the old adage that an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.—W. S.

**Peters on a New Jay.**—In this short paper<sup>1</sup> Mr. Peters describes as new the form of the Canada Jay occurring at Red Deer, Alberta, calling it *Perisoreus canadensis albescens* (p. 5). The specimens examined are in the Brewster collection, now in the Museum of Comparative Zoology, and are paler than any of the other known races.—W. S.

**Chapman on *Ostinops decumanus*.**<sup>2</sup>—As a result of a study of a large series of this Cacique Dr. Chapman separates the birds from Bolivia, Peru and south-western Brazil from the typical form of northern South America, as *Ostinops decumanus maculosus* (p. 26) Yungus, Bolivia, characterized by a sprinkling of yellow or white feathers over the body and wing-coverts. The most important part of his paper however is the careful study of variation which it contains. The author finds variation of several kinds represented in this species the most striking being in the shape and size of the wings and tail in male birds from the same locality, which he attributes partly to age and partly to other factors. Dr. Chapman's paper should be carefully studied by anyone contemplating further subdivision of this or allied species while it is also an important contribution to the problem of variation in general.—W. S.

**Lonnberg on 'The Birds of the Juan Fernandez and Easter Islands.'**<sup>3</sup>—The material upon which this paper is based was procured on the Swedish Pacific Expedition of 1916-17 by Mr. Kare Backström, zoologist of the party. From the Juan Fernandez specimens of twenty species were obtained which are described in detail by the author, the *Cinclodes* hitherto regarded as *C. fuscus* being separated under the name *C. oustaleti backstroemii* (p. 4). The interesting hummingbird, *Eustephanus fernandensis* was taken in various stages of molt, some indi-

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<sup>1</sup> A New Jay from Alberta. By James Lee Peters. Proc. New England Zool. Club, VII, pp. 51-5. May 4, 1920.

<sup>2</sup> Unusual Types of Apparent Geographic Variation in Color and of Individual Variation in Size Exhibited by *Ostinops decumanus*. By Frank M. Chapman. Proc. Biol. Society of Washington, Vol. 33, pp. 25-32. July 24, 1920.

<sup>3</sup> The Birds of the Juan Fernandez Islands.

Notes on Birds from Easter Island. By Einar Lonnberg, pp. 1-24. Extract from The Natural History of Juan Fernandez and Easter Island. Edited by Dr. Carl Skottsberg. Vol. III. 1920. [In English.]

viduals having scarcely a metallic feather and it is suggested that the so-called *E. leyboldii* is merely a seasonal condition of *E. fernandensis*. Half-tone illustrations of the latter bird and nest from photographs are presented.

A summary of our knowledge of the avifauna of these historic islands shows that thirty species are known to have occurred on them. Of these twenty-four have been recorded from Masatierra and twelve from Masafuera. Nine species are indigenous, the two humming birds, the *Anaeretes* and the Sparrow Hawk being peculiar to the former island and the *Aphrastura* and buzzard to Masafuera, although stragglers of the latter species wander across to Masatierra. The thrush and the *Cinclodes* occur on both islands. Five petrels breed on the islands and the Domestic Pigeon and California Quail have been introduced. The other birds are accidental visitors, five from the South American mainland, five roving seabirds and three migrants from the north—the Short-eared Owl, Red Phalarope and *Buteo obsoletus*.

On Easter Island specimens of six of the twelve species said to inhabit the island were obtained, two of which are described as new: *Procelsterna caerulea skottsbergii* (p. 20) and *Pterodroma heraldica paschae* (p. 23). The nesting habits of the latter species are interesting. The soil of the island where this Petrel breeds was so hard that it was impossible for the birds to construct burrows and the eggs were therefore laid directly upon the ground amongst the grass.—W. S.

**Geographical Bibliography of British Ornithology.**—Part 5 of this valuable reference work<sup>1</sup> continues the Scottish counties and includes the island groups—the Orkneys, Hebrides and Shetlands, the ornithology of which is perhaps the most interesting of any part of the British Isles. One of the works containing reference to the birds of the Orkneys bears date of 1693, while the bibliography of the birds of the Hebrides runs back to 1703. Part 6 covers Ireland and brings the work to a close.—W. S.

**Spring Migration Notes of the Chicago Area.**—In an attractively printed pamphlet<sup>2</sup> bearing this title Messrs. J. D. Watson, G. P. Lewis and N. F. Leopold, Jr., have presented an annotated list of the birds observed by themselves and by Messrs. Locke Mackenzie and Sydney Stein in the Chicago Area with dates of arrival for the years 1913 to 1920 inclusive. The main list contains 237 species with five others, the occurrence of which is doubtful. The list seems to be very carefully prepared

<sup>1</sup> Geographical Bibliography of British Ornithology from the earliest Times to the end of 1918 Arranged under Counties. By W. H. Mullens, H. Kirke Swann and Rev. F. R. C. Jourdain. Part 5, pp. 385-480 Part 6, pp. 481-558. Witherby & Co, 326 High Holborn, London. 1920.

<sup>2</sup> Spring Migration Notes of the Chicago Area. Compiled by James D. Watson, George Porter Lewis and Nathan F. Leopold, Jr. Privately printed. pp. 1-18. [1920.]